

Amendment to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A mechanical shoe for mounting on a hoof of a sport horse, comprising:
 - a front central part or toe piece,
 - two side branches or quarters extending freely from sides of the front
 - 5 central part,
 - rear end portions forming heels,
 - holes or nail holes defined in the side branches to receive nails for attachment to the hoof,
 - an inner surface facing the hoof of each of the side branches including
 - 10 zones on the rear ends, forming flares of greater width than the side branches, the inner surface of each of its side branches defining a zone whose interior edge presents a simple curved inner profile and whose width is narrower than the front central part or toe piece, and
 - an inner peripheral edge beveled by a first chamfer defined in a
 - 15 direction of an outer surface which defines a ~~contact~~contact face with the ground narrower than the inner surface, the contact face widening in the region of the heels,
 - wherein the front central part or toe piece has a plurality of ridges or grooves forming accordion pleats disposed on the ~~inner~~first chamfer.
2. (Previously Presented) The shoe according to claim 1, wherein the rear ends or heels define thinning zones extending from outer peripheral edges of the heels.
3. (Previously Presented) The shoe according to the claim 1, wherein the inner peripheral edge is beveled by a second chamfer defined in a direction of the inner surface.
4. (Previously Presented) The shoe according to claim 3, wherein the front central part or toe piece has a plurality of ridges or grooves forming accordion pleats disposed on the second chamfer.

5. (Previously Presented) The shoe according to claim 1, wherein the inner surface of each side branch is flat where the holes intended to receive the nails are defined.

6. (Previously Presented) The shoe according to claim 5, wherein on the outer face, the nail holes are defined in a groove.

7. (Previously Presented) The shoe according to claim 3, wherein on both sides of the toe piece, in zones bordering with the side branches, transverse nail holes are defined with a central portion extending transversely and a length bigger than a thickness of a blade of nail to be received, such that the received
5 nail can be positioned in an ideal nailing zone or white line of the hoof.

8. (Previously Presented) The shoe according to claim 7, wherein each of the transverse nail holes is of truncated pyramidal form widening towards the outer surface of the toe piece.

9. (Previously Presented) The shoe according to claim 8, wherein inner surfaces of the truncated pyramidal transverse nail holes include notches, in order to allow the blocking of the received nail in a selected position in the nail hole.

10. (Previously Presented) A horseshoe comprising:
a front central portion;
side branch portions extending from opposite sides of the front central
portion;
5 the front central portion and each side branch portion having an inner edge beveled by a chamfer in a direction of an outer surface which defines a contact face with the ground;
the contact face along the side branches being narrower than the contact face along the front central portion; a plurality of ridges or grooves defined on
10 the chamfer forming accordion pleats along the front central portion; and

heel portions extending from ends of the side branch portions, the heel portions being flared wider than the side branch portions.

11. (Previously Presented) The horseshoe according to claim 10, wherein the front central and side branch portions have an inner hoof facing surface that is wider than the ground contact face, the hoof facing and ground contact faces being connected by the inner beveled edge and an outer beveled edge.

12. (Previously Presented) The horseshoe according to claim 10, wherein the ground contact face is flat along the front central portion and defines a groove along each side branch portions, nail holes being defined in each groove.

13. (Previously Presented) The horseshoe according to claim 10, wherein the ground contact face is flat along the front central portion and further including transverse nail holes defined in the front central portion flat face, each transverse nail hole having a longer dimension extending transversely to the front
5 central portion and a shorter dimension extending along to the front central portion, the shorter dimension corresponding to a width of a nail to be received in the transverse nail hole and the longer dimension being thicker than the nail, such that the nail can be positioned in a selectable location along the longer dimension.

14. (Previously Presented) The horseshoe according to claim 13, wherein the transverse nail hole includes notches defined along the longer dimension.

15. (Previously Presented) The horseshoe according to claim 13, wherein the transverse nail holes have a truncated pyramidal form.

16. (Previously Presented) The horseshoe according to claim 10, wherein the inner edge along the front central portion and the side branch portions is further beveled by a second chamfer in a direction of a hoof facing surface, a series of ridges or grooves being defined on the second chamfer along the front central portion.

17. (Previously Presented) The horseshoe according to claim 11, further including:

a portion extending from a peripheral edge of each of the heel portions, the extending portions being narrower than the heel portions.

18. (Previously Presented) The horseshoe according to claim 10, wherein the ridges or grooves extend transverse to the front central portion.

19. (New) The shoe according to claim 3, wherein the contact face in the region of the toe piece and the two side branches is of substantially constant width narrower than the inner surface.